

Claims:

1 1. A user interface method in a browser application implemented in an Internet
2 appliance for accessing information on the Internet, the Internet appliance having a display
3 device and using a reduced-keyset user interface device for user input, the reduced-keyset
4 user interface device having a plurality of keys consisting of direction keys, numeric keys,
5 and a number of function keys, the method comprising:

6 displaying a user interface screen on the display device, the screen being divided
7 into a primary screen area for displaying information and at least a first and a second
8 control area, the first control area containing one or more mode icons for selecting a mode
9 of the browser application, the second control area containing one or more command icons
10 depending on the selected mode;

11 in a navigate mode, displaying a plurality of interface elements in the primary screen
12 area, each interface element representing a web page, and accessing one of the web
13 pages by invoking a command icon or an interface element in response to user input
14 through the use of the reduced-keyset user interface device;

15 in a browse mode, displaying page contents of a web page in the primary screen
16 area, the web page including one or more interface elements, and further displaying
17 different page contents by invoking a command icon or an interface element in response to
18 user input through the use of the reduced-keyset user interface device; and

19 in the navigate and/or browse mode, dynamically displaying indications that
20 associate each of one or more command icons and/or interface elements with a key of the
21 reduced-keyset user interface device, and invoking a command icon and/or interface
22 element in response to user input through the use of the associated key.